



## Federal Requirements: Graduation/Dropout Rates

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## Current Dropout Rates

- **Event Rate** – is the percentage of a specific school population which drops out during a calendar year. The event dropout rate provides a measure of recent dropout experiences. Event rates are important because they reveal the proportion of students who leave high school each year without completing a high school program. Tennessee defines event rate as the number of dropouts (grades 9-12) in a given calendar year divided by the net enrollment (grades 9-12) for the same year.
- Event Rate = 
$$\frac{\text{DO (grades 9,10,11,12)}}{\text{Net Enrollment (grades 9,10,11,12)}}$$



## Current Dropout Rates (Continued)

- **Cohort Rate** – is the percentage of an entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade class which has dropped out by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The cohort rate measures what happens to a single group, or cohort of students over a period of time. Cohort rates are important because they reveal how many students starting in a specific grade drop out over time.
- The cohort rate for the 2006-2007 graduating class is calculated by dividing the total number of dropouts in the class of 2006-07 (over the past 4 years) by the 9<sup>th</sup> grade class enrollment for 2003-04.



## Current Dropout Rates (Continued)

- An example of a cohort dropout is as follows:

Number of 09<sup>th</sup> grade DO in 2003-04

Number of 10<sup>th</sup> grade DO in 2004-05

Number of 11<sup>th</sup> grade DO in 2005-06

+ Number of 12<sup>th</sup> grade DO in 2006-07

Total dropouts for the class of 2006-07

- Cohort rate =  $\frac{\text{Total dropouts for the class of 2006-07}}{\text{9<sup>th</sup> grade net enrollment for the class of 2003-04}}$

## Current Dropout Rates (Continued)

	Event Rate	Cohort Rate
Student drops out and returns before the end of the year.	No	No
Student drops out and returns at the beginning of the next year.	Yes	Yes
Student drops out and returns to the <u>same</u> school the next year and then drops out again.	Yes (1X in 1 <sup>st</sup> year and 1X in 2nd year)	Yes (1X in 1 <sup>st</sup> year)
Student drops out and returns to a <u>different</u> school the next year and drops out again.	Yes (1X in 1 <sup>st</sup> school and 1X in 2 <sup>nd</sup> school)	Yes (1X in 1 <sup>st</sup> school and 1X in 2 <sup>nd</sup> year in school 2)



## National Governors Association (NGA)

- In 2005 governors of all 50 states signed the Graduation Counts Compact and made an unprecedented commitment to a common method for calculating each state's high school graduation rate. In addition to agreeing to a common formula for calculating the graduation rate, the governors committed to leading efforts to improve state data collection, reporting, and analysis; reporting additional indicators of outcomes for students; and reporting annually on their progress toward improved high school graduation, completion, and dropout data. The governors undertook this commitment because they understand the imperative to gather more accurate, comparable data on how many of their students graduate from high school on time. They also understand the need to ensure all students graduate from high school and do so ready for college, work, and civic life.

## Current and Future Graduation Rates

	Current Grad Rate	NGA Grad Rate
Formula	<u>Regular on-time graduates</u> Regular, on-time grads + reg. late grads + special ed. diplomas + certificate of attendance + GEDs + cohort dropouts (12 <sup>th</sup> grade 2006-07, 11 <sup>th</sup> grade 2005-06, 10 <sup>th</sup> grade 2004-05, 9 <sup>th</sup> grade 2003-04.	Regular on-time grads assigned to current cohort/(1 <sup>st</sup> time 9 <sup>th</sup> graders (y-3)* + transfer into cohort - transfers out.
Numerator	All students who receive regular diplomas who first entered 9 <sup>th</sup> grade 3 years earlier and (4 years earlier for SE and ELL).	All students who receive regular on-time diplomas and are assigned to the current year cohort.
Denominator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•All students who received any type of completion document in the current year.</li> <li>•All students who withdrew with a code of <b>W0</b> or <b>W1</b> as 9<sup>th</sup> graders (y-3), 10<sup>th</sup> graders (y-2), 11<sup>th</sup> graders (y-1) or 12 graders in the current year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•All students assigned to current cohort.</li> <li>•Excluding students withdrawing with the following codes: <b>W02</b> – Withdrawn to State Institution; <b>W03</b> - Transferred to other TN system; <b>W04</b> - Transferred to other school in same system; <b>W05</b> - Transferred out of state; <b>W06</b> – Transferred to non-public school in TN; <b>W08</b> – deceased; <b>W10</b> – Transferred to home school. <u>Note:</u> Students withdrawn using the other assigned codes will remain in the denominator.</li> </ul>

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## Current and Future Graduation Rates (Continued)

- \* In the NGA Grad Rate, students are assigned to a cohort which equals the year they first entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade + 3 years, or if they are eligible for 5 years to graduate, the year they first entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade + 4 years. A general education student who entered 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007 will be assigned to the 2009-10 cohort, while a special education or ELL student entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007 will be assigned to the 2010-2011 cohort.





## Supporting Information and Examples

	Current Grad Rate	NGA Grad Rate
A special education student entered 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007 and is eligible to graduate on-time in five years. This student is assigned to the 2010-2011 cohort. The student receives a regular diploma in 4 years in 2009-10.	The student is counted in the numerator and denominator in 2009-10, the year the diploma is received.	The student is counted in the numerator and denominator in 2010-11, because the student was assigned to the 2010-11 cohort.  The student is not counted in the grad rate for 2009-2010.
A general education student entered 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007. The student is assigned to the 2009-10 cohort. The student receives a regular diploma in 2010-11.	The student is counted in the denominator as a late grad in 2010-11, the year in which the student received their diploma.	The student is counted in the denominator in 2009-10, because the student was assigned to the 2009-10 cohort and did not receive a regular diploma in that year.



## Supporting Information and Examples (Continued)

	Current Grad Rate	NGA Grad Rate
A general education student entered 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007. The student is assigned to the 2009-10 cohort. The student is retained in 9 <sup>th</sup> grade and as a 9 <sup>th</sup> grader in 2007-08 the student drops out.	This student is counted in the denominator of the 2010-11 grad rate, since 9 <sup>th</sup> grade dropouts for 2007-08 are included in that years rate.	The student is counted in the denominator of the 2009-10 grade rate because the student was assigned to that cohort.
A general education student entered 9 <sup>th</sup> grade in 2006-2007 and is assigned to the 2009-10 cohort. In 2007-08 (as a 10 <sup>th</sup> grader) the student withdraws on a <b>W07</b> - doctor certified withdrawal and never re-enrolled in the state.	The student is not counted in either the numerator or the denominator, since the student is neither a completer nor a dropout.	The student is counted in the denominator of the 2009-10 cohort because the student did not transfer to another school and never re-enrolled in the state.